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## The Hill-Bryan Transaction.

Personal abuse of Mr. BRYAN for his part in the transaction with Mr. HILL at St. Louis is not in order.

It was not BRYAN who surrendered the gold standard. He has never been for the gold standard. He has never even pretended to be for it.

It is not BRYAN who profits by the bargain, except in intellectual satisfaction at the maintenance of a principle he has consistently held, and perhaps also in his continued power in the party's supreme council.

Why, then, should any disappointed Gold Democrat vent his indignation upon the Hon. WILLIAM J. BRYAN?

The Sacred Writ teaches the wrathful whom to curse

### Is the German Army Degenerate?

Since the publication of the little book in which Lieut. BILSE described the loose discipline and looser living of German officers in a garrison town, the opinion has gained currency that the military machine perfected by Roon and MOLTKE has become rusty and out of gear, and that, in the next conflict with France, the German successors of those organizers and strategists will no more be able to repeat the triumphs achieved at Sedan and Metz than were the successors of FREDERICK the Great to inflict a second Rosbach on NAPOLEON at Jena.

To this belief utterance is given by Gen. RICCIOTTI GARIBALDI in the Inter-SCHIERBRAND in the North American Review. After pointing out that the hunger for revenge and the determination to blot out the humiliation suffered in "l'année terrible" were never more potent in the French heart than they are now, the Italian soldier expresses the conviction that in the collision which he deems inevitable, France is destined to be victorious. The conclusion is based on the assumption that, in respect of numhers and efficiency, the land forces of France and those of Germany balance each other, while France is acknowled ged to be much the stronger on the sea. Gen. GARIBALDI also takes for granted that under republican institutions the French army is now far more likely than it was under the Second Empire to have a leader suited to the peculiar temperament | times was ascribed to the peculiar con- no white enterprises could thrive there French soldiers can almos always be trusted to exhibit bravery, but ance. It was said that the Southern the savage LOBENGULA drilled his troops it naturally makes a great difference | wing of the party had not only the votes | and held his orgies till his downfall, whether they are commanded by a but the wealth. They had, too, the leisure eleven years ago, and threatened to kill VILLEROI or a Soubise, or by a Moreau | and the training requisite for activity in or a BONAPARTE.

It is for different reasons that Mr. VON SCHIERBRAND apprehends that some nating part. The close of the civil war, day there may be a rude awakening for however, and the enormously increased Germany, and that another Jena may be influence of the West, incident to growth were forts and temples built by the needed to give back to the German army in population and resources, appear Phoenicans; and fine views of Victoria the robustness of moral fibre which, in to have made no difference, among his opinion, was an important factor in Democrats at least. Casting considthe victories gained a generation ago. The parallel between the conditions which existed in the German army in 1806 and those presented in 1904 is pronounced a by the votes of several Northern States, striking one. What the conditions were in the representatives of Southern conthe year first mentioned were set forth by stituencies, by superiority of political Emperor WILLIAM II, himself, when, addressing a gathering of Generals at Berlin. by 1900, he said: "The glorious soldiers of FREDERICK the Great had fallen asleep on their laurels, ossified in the trivial details of a senseless, antiquated drill; led by superannuated, unready and unwarlike Generals; their officers no longer used to serious work and degenerated by luxury, sloth and blind self-glorification." The writer in the North American Review maintains that the vainglorious dissolute, overbearing, cowardly, Prussian junkers and soldiers of 1806 have their counterparts in the German officers

It is not alone moral deterioration that the German army is said to have undergone. What much more narrowly concerns Germany's allies or opponents is the charge that the technical efficiency of the army has been grievously impaired. Of the battle-scarred and experienced commanders that had slowly risen before 1866 not one is left. The present Kaiser would permit not one of them to remain in active service. Like Mr. ROOSEVELT, he believes in the "rejuvenating" process, the result of which is that every military post of importance is filled by a totally untried man. The youngest Lieutenant in France knows more of actual fighting than does WIL-LIAM II., the German Commander in Chief, and all the officers serving under him are just as ignorant of real war as he. It is sometimes said that veterans are too old to learn, but the Kaiser, who is the reverse of a veteran, will learn nothing. It is matter of common knowledge, as Mr. von Schierbrand points out, that, from his strong love of the spectacular, WILLIAM II., at every great manœuvre held since his accession, has taught his scientific investigation, without any sort army to fight as if the old smoothbores of racial or religious bias, it may be were still in use, instead of training it in taken as fair and impartial. the tactics made necessary by the general adoption of smokeless powder and | departure from the distinctively Jewish long range guns and rifles. The fact is recalled that at the big fall manœuvres a couple of years ago when American officers fresh from the Philippines were eyewitnesses, one of them exclaimed: "If the Kaiser means to tackle the enemy in that style in the next war, not a man or a among them, when once they gain foothorse of his forces will reach their des-The Kaiser's strategy also has He speaks of the "departure of the re- churches of this diocese is a belated re-

eign officers, and even German newspapers have ventured to discuss it in uncomplimentary terms. No heed has been paid to such criticism. For fifteen years the German army has been taught in sham battle to attack an imaginary enemy under conditions and in a manner which in actual warfare would invite annihilation.

It may be remembered that Lieut. BILSE, the author of the little book to which we have referred, was imprisoned and dismissed from the army. The circulation of his book, however, although the plates were destroyed and its sale was forbidden, has been enormous, and it may be that the profound anxiety excited by its revelations, an anxiety expressed in the Reichstag, may bring about material changes in the organization, training and spirit of the German army. Unless such changes are made without delay, it may well happen that the military system, on which depends not only the nation's prestige and territorial integrity, but even perhaps its unity, may collapse in the hour of trial.

Southern Men Prominent at St. Louis. The undeniable aptitude of Southern the St. Louis convention. Although the Southern States contribute so largely to the column of Democratic electoral personal enjoyment of this evidence of of success, the Democratic vote of the similar obstacles are encountered in Thus, at the last Presidential election, of the churches exceedingly small." the whole Democratic vote of Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, South Carolina and Louisiana, six States, was less than the Democratic vote in the collectively less than 2,000,000 of the 6,300,000 votes cast for the Democratic electoral ticket.

Notwithstanding this numerical disparity, such is the aptitude for politics of Southern men that at the recent convention they took a front rank and practically dominated the work of the convention. It was called to order by JONES was its temporary chairman. The important committee on resolutions had its chairman DANIEL of Virginia. DASMORE of Arkansas was chairman national Quarterly and by Mr. Wolf von of the committee on permanent organization, and HEAD of Tennessee of the committee on credentials.

When, on Friday, the work of the convention was delayed by the failure of the committee on resolutions to report, this was the committee sent by the convention to secure a report: JAMES of views of towns, fine bridges, really hand-Kentucky, BELL of Texas and CLAYTON of Alabama. The nominating speech also a grain field where white men are for Judge PARKER was made by Mr. LTT- harvesting with a self-binding reaper-TLETON, now of this city, but a native and | all in Matabeleland and Mashonaland, former resident of Tennessee; and one of which SELOUS, KERR and many others of the strongest of Democrats in the were writing sixteen years ago that convention in consistent advocacy of a Europeans could enter these countries sound and sane money plank in the plat- only at the peril of their lives. form was RYAN of Virginia, now also a resident of New York.

By many students of politics the prominence of Southern Democrats in former | first white man who crossed it said that emergencies in the matter of its continu- splendid buildings at Bulawayo, where political life, and in every Democratic him that GoD was greater than he was; national convention they took a domierably less than a third of the Democratic vote and without electoral votes enough to determine the result unless supported aptitude it would appear, took the practical direction of the work of the St. Louis convention.

A Block on the Upper East Side. At a convention of associated orthodox complaint has been made that American Jews are departing from their ancestral faith and laws. The "higher criticism" was not attacked more savagely by speakers at the late meeting of the Christian Bible Defence League than by Jewish rabbis at this convention. "We hold," said Rabbi PEIKES on Wednesday, "that take all or nothing, and that if one word is held to be wrong all must be wrong."

The neglect of religious faith and praclamented by these orthodox rabbis may be due in part to criticism of the Bible as a very faulty collection of documents. but probably this effect has not been produced by it outside of a comparatively limited circle of Jews. causes are at work in bringing it to pass, as Rabbi PEIKES alleged that even no longer observe the Sabbath, keep their places of business open on that day. fail to attend the synagogue, disregard the laws as to working, touching fire, &c., on the Sabbath, as well as the dietary provisions and many other matters

which are the basis of Judaism." A study called "The Sociology of a New York City Block," made by Dr. THOMAS JESSE JONES, has just been published by the Columbia University Press. This block is on the upper East Side and in it are many Jewish inhabitants. As the study gives the results of a peculiarly

Dr. Jones found instances of a gradual type in the younger generation, "partly due to Americanization." He also found mixed marriages of all nationalities, including Hebrews. "The tendency to religious beliefs is not strong in the district," and "the beliefs most persistent hold, are those of the socialistic type."

been openly ridiculed by competent for- formed Jews from everything orthodox, the doffing of wigs and long beards and the dropping off of many of the older "Among the Jews and Gercustoms." mans the substitution of dogmatic and irrational socialistic schemes for traditional religious beliefs is a common occurrence throughout the city." Only a minority of the families in the block are generally faithful to their religious obligations, though "however careless a Jew may be throughout the year, on his religious holidays he puts aside all work, dresses in his best and spares neither himself nor his pocketbook in fulfilling his duty to the synagogue."

The synagogue, however, is losing its hold on the younger generation of Jews. "Only where parental authority and filial respect are supreme does any large majority of the young men and women adhere to the orthodox Jewish faith."

The general conclusion of Dr. JONES is that the Jews are bent on getting ahead first of all, or, as he expresses it, "the controlling principle in the life of the Jews of the upper East Side is not religion, but the desire 'to get along' and to prosper.'

This disposition of the Jews to improve their condition, natural and creditable, Democrats for an actual leadership in and the many distractions from strict political work was again illustrated at religious observances which business creates, make it uphill work for the rabbis who are trying to bring back their people to the old and strict orthodox votes that without their solid support ways. The whole movement of American South is, numerically, less than that of enforcing Christian religious observthe States either of the West or the East. | ances. Dr. Jones found "the influence

## The Story of an African Railway

The Rhodesian Railways Company, Republican State of Pennsylvania. Vir- Limited, is now prepared to carry tourginia, Tennessee and North Carolina ists from Cape Town to Victoria Falls, cast together fewer Democratic votes on the Zambesi River, 1,644 miles. No than did Ohio, and the whole South cast | fast time is made anywhere along the route. It takes five days to reach the falls from the south end of Africa; but the appointments of the first class coaches are among the best, and there are sleeping and dining cars, private compartments and luxuriously fitted smoking and writing rooms. When we turn back to LIVINGSTONE'S description of months of weary and arduous travel to the great of Arkansas. Williams of Mississippi falls which he discovered we can scarcely realize that this wonder of nature is now accessible to the pleasure loving tourist after a comfortable five day journey from Cape Town.

The folder which the company has just issued for travellers is probably as handsome as any ever printed, and it is more interesting because it is so novel. It includes forty half tone and six colored pictures and two maps. Most of the pictures are glimpses of scenery, some hotels and railroad stations and

We see hundreds of buildings covering the plains at Salisbury, Umtali and other points in Mashonaland, of which the all missionaries because one of them told the rugged kopje on whose summit is the tomb of CECIL RHODES; the ruins of Zimbabye, which many writers think Falls, more than three times as high as Niagara, a mile in width, affording a scene of wonderful beauty and grandeur, which cannot be observed, however, in its entirety from any one point of view. This is the place where the British Association will meet next year for its annua

On the way to the falls the road passes through the centre of the Wankie coal district, where a coal bed of enormous extent was disclosed three years ago. Experts from England who were sent to make a systematic examination of rabbis, in session in Henry street, bitter the field have reported that one small section of this bed will yield 1,000 tons a day for the next hundred years and that for steaming purposes the best is only 4 to 6 per cent. inferior to Welsh steam coal, while the worst is superior

to any coal hitherto found in Africa. Travellers to the falls on the main line or on the branch roads to Salisbury where the Bible is concerned we must and the port of Beira will need well filled purses. There is no two cent limit per mile on any of the African railroads. First class fare from Cape Town tice or the indifference to them so greatly to Victoria Falls is about \$90. or about double the rates, distance for distance, that are charged on the transcontinental lines across our country.

The locomotive does not seem to be at all out of place on the lofty tableland which the main line crosses, about 4,000 feet above the sea; but it does not fit in so well with its surroundings on "many orthodox Hebrews in New York the branch leading to the Portuguese port of Beira. For many miles this line follows a tortuous course through forests of giant tropical trees, while the train is continually brushed by the jungle grass and the tree ferns, from which it is almost impossible to keep the track clear. The novel and the unexpected are constantly occurring in these solitudes. Late one night recently the train came to an abrupt standstill in the forest. The conductor went ahead to learn what was the matter. The engineer told him that a young lion, fascinated by the headlight on the locomotive, had fallen a victim to his thirst for knowledge. The train had passed completely over him, and his own mother would not have recognized the fragments of her too inquisitive offspring. He met the fate of the buffalo that set his face against the progress of one of the first trains

> Professionalism in Church Music. The decision of Archbishop FARLEY that non-Christians shall not be employed in the choirs of the Roman Catholio

across America.

turn to a long established tradition which will win favor among the faithful of every Christian fold. It is in line with the promulgation of the Pope in regard to the use of the older style of music in the sanctuary. The first six centuries of the development of modern music were occupied wholly with the building up of a liturgy for the Church of Rome. The rearing of the imposing musical structure which reached its glorious completion in the masterworks of PALES-TRINA and LASSO was entirely in the hands of professional musicians, but they were all trained in the traditions and tenets of the Catholic Church.

In the year 314, Pope SYLVESTER founded singing schools in Rome. In 367, the Council of Laodicea forbade congregational singing and confined the vocal music entirely to the trained choir. Not till the era of the Reformation, when the influence of congregational singing in the new movement was palpable, did the fathers of the Catholic Church consider the people a factor in the liturgy, and then the movement was only in the direction of simplifying the music so that the text could be understood.

In those days the professional musicians of the Church were all its children. Music was confessedly the handmaiden of religion. But in the course of time the effect of professionalism in the choir loft was such as to bring music to the condition of a performance rather than an integral part of the service. One the battle would be without chance life is opposed to their undertaking. But abuse of which the present Pope complains, the introduction of ornate and incongruous music into the service, is a direct result of the ambition of professional musicians of one class or another to exploit their abilities. The employment of non-Christians, when they chance to be fine performers, is quite in keeping with the rest of the movement.

To be sure, many of the greatest musicians who ever lived have not been Christians. The question is, of course, not simply whether those in choir lofts make good music, but whether it is not impossible for them to be in spiritual accord with the service in which they take part. Is not their share in it merely a paid performance? Certainly the Christian Church in its earlier days was convinced that it ought to train its own singers and organists and that they should be deyout believers. They were as much a part of the personnel of the Church as the clergy.

If Archbishop FARLEY is seeking to return toward this condition, neither sound Catholics nor pious Protestants will find fault with him, although his action may rob some churches of distinguished singers or accomplished organists.

A sunrise nomination, but a sunset plat

And who, in the most extraordinary of political conventions, was the individual that voted for BIRD S. COLER?

In some accounts of the steamship disaster Rockall has been referred to as an island. It is really nothing more than a monolith lifting its white sides above the sea so steeply that a man could scarcely find footing anywhere. It is rather slender for its height, and though many birds flutter around and settle upon it, the rock pinnacle could not without much difficulty be made available for a small building or a lighthouse. But it would not be easy to mainof the rank and file and untrammelled ditions of slave holding and of legislative even if the natives would let them alone; tain a lighthouse at so great a distance from

Rockall has been regarded as a sort of natural curiosity, for nothing quite like it types from America, South Africa and is known to exist elsewhere far out in the ocean. Such rock fragments are common along many coasts, but Rockall stands out 200 miles or so from any land. It has long been regarded as a solitary rock pillar in the midst of the ocean wastes.

These rocks rise from a shallow sea only 600 to 1,200 feet deep. Rockall was the object of special investigation a few years ago, and a report on it was written. There was no intimation that while it rises to a considerable height and is well known to mar iners, a similar rock, very dangerous because hidden, is only a few miles away It cost hundreds of lives to discover this topographical fact.

# The Good Salesman.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Str.: A recent ar ticle in THE SUN opens with the query: "Have all the good salesmen jobs?" My answer is, No. There are many untried men with all the necessary qualifications in their make-up to become good salesmen, if they were afforded the opportunity. There are three paramount considerations in every interview where there is a desire to effect a e, and they should never be lost sight of: First the impression made on the subject—which, if a good one, means half the battle won; if a bad one the battle practically lost before the first shot need of quickly, intelligently, and forcefully exploiting the firm and goods repre sented; and, thirdly, knowing the proper momen o grasp the opportunity to close the case and se-

The really great factor, however, that makes for success in every line of business to-day is hard work, wholesouled, conscientious work, without which results are meagre and real success a will o'-the-wisp. Salesmen should always remember at their capital is time, and that the wasting of it Too often it occurs that, having secured a good order, they feel clated and say: "Well, that's a

Salesmen should take a hopeful view of things, yet they seem to have a habit of saying "business is rotten" to each other, even when, as a matter of fact, it is good, and thereby discouraging each Too often a similar remark is made to

the trade, creating discouragement. The successful salesman ever wears a smile, in cess or adversity, and brings to established or prospective trade the cheery word, the glad hand, and the confident manner that begets confidence in his subject. He recognizes the philosoohy: "Laugh, and the world laughs with you weep, and you weep alone."

There are certainly many men who have never en on the road who have all the necessary quall fications lying dormant. With slight dement they would become eminently succ Besides, there is an exhibitration about the life of a sman who is ever anxious to outdistance sending in plenty of orders. The man who values his position and likes his

dislikes it can expect to be a good sale A. W. O'G. STRACUSE, July 6.

#### Great English Physicist's Opinion of His From a London Letter in the Medical Record.

Sir Oliver Lodge has given offence in some quar-ters by remarking in a review that certain idea cannot be made "so childishly simple as to be apprehended by the general average of so-called educated men in this country, whose sense percepeducated men in this country, whose sense percep-tions in the direction of great and comprehensive ideas have not been developed. Japanese Officers and Men Fare Alike.

From London Truth.

The Japanese officers in campaign have exactly the same fare as the private soldiers. Marshal Yamagata himself, when commanding nine years ago in China, had no better. Kubelik's Twins. From the London Daily News.

Twin daughters have arrived for Kubelik. For unately, he is used to crowded houses.

Theodor Herzl, novelist, playwright, ournalist and-greatest of all-the inspiration of modern Zionism, is dead in his fortyfifth year. In far-off Galicia, in the Russian Pale, in darkest Roumania, wherever the oppressor waves the rod over the children of Israel, or, indeed, where there are longing eyes turned toward the ancient of the race, there is to-day grief and lamentation over the loss of the leader of the latest of Judah's idyllic dreams. Gone is that most eloquent of all the poets and dealists who combined to paint with roseate hues the trazedy and pathos of a forlorn hope, and alas! there is reason to fear that with him have gone the buoyancy and indomitable will which made the dream s continuous performance and almost inspired belief in its verity.

When the history of the Zionist move ment is made up the important part in it played by Herzl will undoubtedly be recognized and the world will have an opportunity to appreciate the infinite tact, patience, unselfishness and skill in diplomacy displaye by him. Then will be realized the fact that devotion to an ideal and passionate love of his downtrodden fellows were the levers by which this hitherto comparatively obscure writer raised a seem ingly impossible theory to the point where it received respectful consideration from such eminently practical persons as the German Kaiser, the Sultan of Turkey and the Prime Minister of England. The strain was too great and, undoubtedly, when all the facts relating to his early death are known, it will prove that he was the victim of his too enthusiastic devotion.

Few leaders of men have had a harder task than that which Herzl imposed upon himself. On the one hand he had to convince the practical men of affairs, which required the arts of the diplomatist and the man of the world; on the other he had to impress the unfortunates in whose cause he had enlisted that he was sincere-if anything the more difficult undertaking of the two. It was natural for them to be distrustful. Only too many had sought to exploit them for selfish ends. He was as unlike them as well might be. He was not downtrodden or persecuted. On the contrary, he had the reputation of being a great favorite in the best drawing rooms of Vienna, where he made his home. Why should this man of culture-hateful word to many of them-bother about the woes of the miserables of far-away lands? He was not even a good Jew, according to their lights, but practically an infidel. That he should have been able to overcome their doubts and bring them to implicit trust in his self-abnegation, in spite of the difference in their methods of thought, in spite of practically irreconcilable differences in matters of religion, was a remarkable testimonial to his powers of persuasion. But the keynote of the man's success

vas his personal magnetism. At the Zionist Congress, held at Basle in 1900, there was some opposition to Herzl on the part of the ultra-orthodox, as there was at times afterward; but it melted away before his magnetic eloquence almost before it had manifested itself, and the opponents of a moment before were hailing him with the most passionate marks of devotion. What a scene that was! Upon the platform sat three rabbis from the Far East, mystics versed in all the ancient Hebrew lore and the dicta of the learned of Israel, but under standing not a word of the proceedings of the Congress, which were conducted that day chiefly in German; gaunt men in long black robes, who seemed to have stepped out of the pages of the musty tomes over which they had pored all their days, full of dignity and silence. In the body of the ise sat a great assemblage of strangely different representatives of the eternal race-stoop shouldered, long bearded and long haired pygmies from Russia, Galicia and Roumania, stalwart flaxen haired Dutchmen and Germans, red haired Englishmen, olive Spaniards and Italians, nev Australia. Here was indeed an instructive illustration of the influence of environmen

upon the physical characteristics of man. In the galleries sat the women, a concession to the orthodox element. In the front of the house and on the platform were the "cultured" supporters of Herzl-bankers politicians, writers, poets, doctors, artists and merchants from Vienna, Paris, London Berlin, Hamburg, Moscow, New Yorkbut all worshippers of the ideal, all enthusiastic believers in the leader, and all there at great personal sacrifice and inconvenience. When will it be possible to bring together again such a band as this for such

And standing out among all these was the grandest of them all. Looking at the man as he stood before this gathering, alert, self-reliant, dignified, courteous and yet firm, pleasant yet determined, and observing his easy bearing, his elegant and grace ful manners, his imposing figure and the finely cut Spanish features set off by a handsome black beard, it was not so difficult to understand the mistake of the Arabs who ran after him in the villages of the Holy Land crying, "Look, there goes the King of the Jews."

A thought which intruded itself upon the writer at the time was, What would be the fate of this aristocrat if by some strange stroke the Jewish State for which he was battling should really come into being? Where would be he and his followers. personally nearly all advocates in the broadest sense of freedom of religious thought, and violators of all the old Jewish customs, in a nation of fiercely orthodox? I asked him that question after the sitting.

"All that I seek," he replied, "is the establishment of a home where the perse cuted of to-day may live in peace; above and beyond all comes that. Everything else is secondary.

"But how about the Jews who are well satisfied where they are—those of America. for instance, who have an affection for their country?' "Let them stay where they are, by all

means," he replied quickly; and then he added bitterly, "but there is no need of throwing stones at those who would lead their less fortunate brethren out of the wilderness of sorrow.

So long as memory endures the recollection of the gatherings of Herzl and his friends at the Hotel Les Trois Rois during the recesses of the Congress and in the evenings will be gratefully treasured by all who were present. No more interesting or ideal assemblage could easily be formed in this work-a-day world. There was Max Nordau, the optimist who deceives himself with the thought that he is a cynic, and who was as ever bubbling over with enthusiasm, despite the fact that he had been compelled to travel twenty-four hours in an ordinary car to get there. He was attending the Dreyfus trial at Rennes at the time and had taken advantage of an adjournment to go to the Congress and make an address, after which he returned to Rennes. He was a marked man at the trial, and not a few of his friends feared that he would fall a victim to the fierce passions of the time; yet no one even thought of advising him to remain away. In that group enthusiasm was running too high for anyone to take heed of

personal danger. There was Marmorek, the intrepid physician from the Pasteur Institute at Paris,

DR. HERZL.

since then of international reputation through his medical researches, and his brother, a bright young attorney of Vienna; a well known sculptor from Paris, Mandeltamm; one of the most noted oculists in Russia; young Sir Francis Monteflore from London, leading bankers from The Hague and Hamburg, Prof. Gottheil of New York, and some others not so distinguished, but almost equally entertaining. Over all these hung the spell of the master, creating an atmosphere which made the sordid thoughts and cares of everyday life seem far away. There have been other Zionist congresses since then, and they have probably marked by similar meetings of the elect. There will undoubtedly be other congresses n the future, but there will be no Herzl, and there will be sorrow where there was joy and silence where were wit and humor.

Fortunate indeed would it be for the Jewish race the world over if such men as Herzl and his fellows were accepted as its representative leaders, rather than some others who have thrust themselves into the limelight, for those were indeed the real aristocrats of Jewry who were gathered under Herzl's banner.

### THE RIDDLE OF THE UNIVERSE. Sceptical Philosophers Vainly Seek for

Its Solution. To the Editor of The Sun—Sir: Mr. MacVeagh is undoubtedly right when he attributes the fire on the General Slocum to infringement of moral law. although one may differ from him upon the origin thought has been given to the subject it probably will be concluded that what we know as moral law is an evolution of the actions of men from the remotest times that in their fulfilment result

in the greatest good to the greatest number.

The mode of conduct constituting moral law may, at its commencement, be arbitrary; as time clapses and the observance of certain procedures are proved to benefit humanity, what was once voluntary becomes compulsory—is made standard by legislative enactments or a universal opinion There can be no inconsistency in referring to

Christ as an advocate of the observance of the moral law, for He has been the chief factor in promoting a rule of conduct for the betterment of mankind; this can be said without attributing to Christ any supernatural power except in so far as we are all agents of that unknown energy ever

Violation of moral law then resolves itself into disobedience of accepted universal principles, that dents to individuals or communities In the particular case of the General Slocum, evi

dently the desire to lessen expense to the owners of the vessel was the direct cause of the calamity. The haste to get rich, the neglect properly to train the crew, the lack of suitable life preservers, were all factors that, added together, made Nature's laws more easy of fulfilment. The fire, once started, had nothing to obstruct its spread and produced the horror That we inhabit a material universe is beyon

question. Why we are here no one can answer equally unanswerable is the question, toward what

Can there be a future existence where all thing will be known unless that future existence is ac companied with personality? While one may b reasoning faculties, and the more these are exer cised the greater becomes the doubt and uncer tainty. While the day of illumination may not be far distant for any of us, there is not a particle of rounds our thoughts will ever be dispersed. We can only hope that in some way now incom

nsible what we know as the Delty will dispe the gloom surrounding actions bringing troubl dismay and death. WASHINGTON, N. J., July 6.

Brooklyn Weman Dissatisfied With Mr. Mac

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIE: Mr. WAYNE MacVeagh says he has no difficulty in reconciling his belief in God with the Slocum disaster, that he cannot see how his religious faith could be affected by it and that Providence should not be blamed

for that disaster.

Does he or does he not believe that God could have prevented that disaster? If He could not, then how can Christians believe him omnipotent? If He could have prevented it and didn't, is it strange that unbelievers like Mf Langdon call such a God a monster? If I admit to myself that God could not be so cruel as calmly to look on and see the innocent suffering so horribly for the carelessness and guilt of others, then is there any other alterna tive except to believe that God is not all powerful?

A faith which says: "I don't know whether Go ould prevent such disasters or not, I don't kno whether it was His will that such a horrible cate trophe occurred, and I have no opinion on the sub-ject either one way or the other s s not a faith to

Nature's Law Abone Discernible by the Human

al to the thinking man or woman.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Mr. Wayn MacVeagh assures us of his willingness to await explanation as to why we inhabit the material universe, usually called "the world."

This is a commendable exhibition of faith, but unsatisfying to the searcher after that truth which has for ages perplexed the universe. To believe is one thing, to know is quite another. As to why we are here or whither we shall go we can know ng. Nature's law is discernible by reason and

live and die and there our knowledge ends. FREDERICE W. STEWART.

# "Be Ye Perfect."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The criticism of "N. M. S." is certainly shallow enough to amuse Father Sheehan if it does not enlighten him. Why is loving one's neighbor as one's self "manifestly impossible?" When "N. M. S." hears of a marty: who sacrificed life for his religion, of a mother wh ced life for her child, of a lover who sacrifice for his country, does it not occur to him that there was something which was dearer than life to martyr

Did he never hear of a scientist who gave up all the material loys of life for science? Did Christ come into the world to teach us how to so our souls to the ease and indulgence of our bodies Did he not rather come to teach us that happiness lies not in the appetites, which are mortal, but is the spirit, which is immortal? He taught us to live in the spirit. In so doing we place our hap on a higher plane, beyond the reach of any material happening. WASHINGTON, July 5.

# Insults in Cambodia.

From the St. James's Gasette. following is quoted by the Gaulois from French Government report: "To cut off his head is the most serious insult that can be shown to a hodian: happily, this prejudice a not share by the other people of Indo-China."

The Fate of the Favorite Sons

Play, ye bandsi Clap, ye handsi Cheer, ye voice, and prance, ye feet! Hasten, man and boy, to greet Him who s coming up the street. See him tilt his shining tile, wing right and left the while: Would you know this mortal great, Riding thus in regal state-Nothing simpler: he's the one — has called her fav'rite son. Hedged with loyal booms about, Fav'rite son is starting out.

Clap, ye hands Play, ye bands! Toll, ye bells

Moan, ye knells! Sob, ye voice, and fill, ye eyes; Hark, ye ears, to piercing cries! Hasten, man, and sympathise See! There comes with tott'ring tread One with ashes on his head, Cloth of sack about him spread. Would you know this mortal glum Limping thus to muffled drum He whom all commiserate, Victim of relentiess fatet Nothing simpler: he's the one has called her fav'rite son what of of glory's track, Fav'rite son is crawling back.

### THE SEA SERPENT. Sighted Lately Off the Coast of Maine

as Reported by Skippers. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The masters and crews of three coasting vessels plying between Penobscot Bay and Casco Bay assert that they have seen the sea serpent within a few days. The general appearance, length, circumference and evolutions of the alleged sea serpent seen by these mariners correspond in the fullest details with the sea serpent which Commodore Edward Preble, U. S. N., saw in Penobscot Bay when he was serving as a midshipman in the Continental

At that time Preble was in charge of a pinnace, which had a swivel mounted in her bow On discerning the sea serpent, which seemed to be asleep on the surface of the water, and well within range of the swivel, Preble aimed and fired the gun. "The shot wounded the serpent, which thereupon raised its head, which was as large as a hogshead, humped its middle, which was of the circumference of twelve feet, and moved away at the velocity of about twenty knots an hour." The story of that sea serpent was one of the stock tales that Preble used to tell Bainbridge, Decatur and Lawrence at his table in the waters of Tripoli. A recent report of the voyage of a French cruiser gives an account of a sea serpent which in every detail corresponds with the description set down by Commodore Preble of the serpent seen by him in Penobsoot Bay.

During interviews with several masters

corresponds with the description set down by Commodore Preble of the serpent seen by him in Penobscot Bay.

During interviews with several masters and saliors along this coast who claim to have seen the sea serpent within a few days, I learned that they had never heard the sea serpent adventure related by Commodore Preble; nor had they heard the sea serpent story told a few weeks ago by the commander of the French cruiser. Saliormen along this coast who tank up with the prohibition brand of whiskey sold by the liquor agents appointed by the State of Maine usually see snakes, blue devils and sea serpents cavorting from the horizon to the zenith. But the salion folk who have just come to this port with tales of the sea serpent are all sober and truthful men. A generation agone there were many cld saliormen along New England's coast who believed in ghosts, devils, flends set to watch Capt Kidd's buried gold, warlooks, banshees and vampires. According to the superstitious nariners of those days, masters, mates and saliors lost at sea invariably appeared as dripping wet shoots knocking on the windows of their homes along this coast. In those times the saliorman who was not ready to swear that he had seen the Flying Dutchman and the sea serpent on several occasions was accounted a landlubberly jocksdoodle who had made nothing more than a short voyage to the fishing grounds or to Cuba. To-day the salior who claims he has seen a sea serpent believes that he is stating a balf fact.

J. WILFRED PEARCE.

PORTLAND, Me., July 8.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Every new suspension bridge over the East River should be an improvement over its prede-cessor. Whether the Williamsburg Bridge is any improvement on the Brooklyn Bridge is questionable, except that it is wider. When the roads of a suspension bridge have the requisite strength to sustain the traffic, every pound weight of metal or other material put on the structure is a source of weakness, for it is an added stress on the suspenders.

The plan of having but two connection the new bridge from each four of the sus-penders, and an overhanging road, seems very poor engineering; for there being no suspenders at the sides of the bridge necessitated immensely heavier cross girders to support the overhanging road. It is doubtful if the large and heavy trusses to support the elevated roads will give sufficient rigidity and strength to the bridge and compens for the added weight on the suspenders. port the board walk are a bagatelle in com-

port the board walk are a bagatelle in comparison.

Elevated railroads should have no place on a suspension bridge or any bridge. The new bridge being so much heavier, one would suppose that the suspenders would be larger and more of them to sustain the added weight; but, strange to say, they are no larger and there are not half so many as are on the old bridge between the towers, not counting those which radiate from the top of the granite towers over the river. As steel crystallizes and deteriorates, it is a mystery why it was used in constructing the towers. Granite laste for all time and needs no paint.

If suspenders had been put on the cables between the towers and the anchorage piers there would have been no lack of rigidity on that part of the road, and the natural curve or dip of the cable and the symmetry of the bridge would have been maintained. It is apparent from the foregoing that the bridge is not so strong as the old and does not favorably compare in any manner, shape or degree with it.

bly compare in any manner, shape or degree with it.

MEGHANIG.

Seppuku.

From the London Morning Post A vast amount of misconception prevals to Europe concerning what is vulgarly termed here kiri. This word is never used by any other than illiterate persons in Japan. Among the educated classes the term employed is seppuls. It is wro classes the term employed is sepputs. It is wrong to suppose that Japanese soldiers and sailors are prone to throw away their lives vainly. Sepputs in ancient times, was an honorable death, but it was only resorted to in extreme circumstances. As the Japanese proverb puts it, "Set wa katashi, Shi wa yasushi"—"Life is difficult, death is easy." For any person to commit suicide merely as a way out of a difficulty was esteemed, and is still, a cowardly act. To take one's own life is easy enough as a means of procuring relief from trouble, but to live on, despite difficulties, being a harder matter, is the more creditable, and this is the meaning to be

attached to the proverb, whi has quite as much force to-day among Japanese as it ever had. force to-day among Japahese as it ever had.

The cause of so many soldiers and sailors—take
the case of the Kin Shiu Maru as an example—preferring death to capture was something widely
different from that which has been assigned. The
people of Japan at large, soldiers and sailors included, had heard so much of the Russian atrooties t Blagovestchensk, of the Russian tree the Chinese at the time of the Boxer troubles, and of Gen. Mitchenko's famous utterance that the Russians had "no ropes, but arms," significant of the short shift that would be given to captives, that the prospect of falling alive into Russian hands that the prospect of raining alvel into Russian hands came in reality to be regarded as far worse than death. It was the firm belief that barbarous treat-ment would be meted out to them that led so many, despite the injunction conveyed in the provers, to shoot or stab themselves when capture was in-

Cases of seppuku, as a matter of fact, were extremely rare, and cases of ordinary suicide, though more frequent, were the expression of a wide-spread conviction that only in this way could an

News Items From the Kansas Prairie. From the Grant County Republic If the eagle acreams here the Fourth it will be because it is left in solliude. The citizens haven's

push enough about them to celebrate. Judge Scott made the city a visit Wednesday Roy Bethel is carrying the Toluca mail at this time, and the Normal girls flock to the office wh John Dacy swatted the editor with a dollar last

Saturday and informed us that we must not stor ublican under no circumstances One of the nice things about the ball games and dances that have been in the last few weeks was the absence of anything in the line of booze, and we are glad to say that Ulysses is a dry town in

Read the statement of the Superintendent, secretary and treasurer of the Sunday school and then make your criticism if you have any but den't peddle gossip without investigation.

Names in the House of Commons. From the St. James's Gasette.

An analysis of the names of the members of the House of Commons shows that out of the total of 670 no less than 92 are called John, the remainder being made up as follows: William, 57; Charles, 42; James, 34; Thomas, 30; George, 27; Edward, 27; Henry, 27; Arthur. 20; Frederick, 18; Robert, 17; 16; Samuel, 12; Patrick, 10; and miscella

> Where the Mask Comes In From the Yonkers Statesman

Patience-He married a woman with money, 1 Patrice-Yes, she's got all kinds of money.

"Homely, I suppose?"
"Frightfully! But he doesn't mind it. You see, spend most of the time in their autom

From the New Orleans Times-Dem Visitor—How do you get around the gam feature of this bucket shop that is operation openly in your town?"

Citizen—We don't get around is as the the On sid of the on

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